## 2023 Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society Law Day Contest Basic Information and Official Contest Rules



**Law Day Theme:** "Cornerstones of Democracy: Civics, Civility, and Collaboration" **Law Day Ceremony:** 10 a.m., May 1, 2023, at the Connecticut Supreme Court Building,

231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford

**Award:** \$1,000

**Deadline:** April 17, 2023

**About the Contest:** This annual contest provides an opportunity to win prizes, learn about our legal system, and get creative. The contest can be incorporated into a curriculum, offered as extra credit, or done just for fun. Both individual and team submissions are accepted.

**Eligibility:** The contest is open to students attending, or student groups and classes at, a public or private high school within Connecticut and in grades 9-12 or the equivalent. Homeschooled students are also eligible to apply. All qualified participants under the age of 18 must have their parent or guardian sign the Parental Permission Release found on the Entry Form.

**About the Theme:** The Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society's 2023 Law Day contest is focusing on the American Bar Association's (ABA) 2023 Law Day theme, which is "Cornerstones of Democracy: Civics, Civility, and Collaboration." As explained by the ABA: "In recent years, tensions in our democratic system have revealed deep divisions in American society. These divisions are aggravated by incivility in public discourse and insufficient understanding among many people about the Constitution and the way American government works. Together, however, we can collaborate to overcome our differences, resolve our disputes, and preserve our democracy and republic."

**Sponsors:** The 2023 Law Day contest is sponsored by the Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society. Contest prizes are made possible through the generous donations by the Society's supporters.

**Official Contest Rules:** Qualified participants may submit an entry on their own. Two or more qualified participants may submit a group entry and do not need to be from the same school. However, all students must meet contest eligibility requirements and must complete the Law Day Contest Entry Form that includes parental permission.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Qualified participants may enter a submission under one of the following categories:

- 1. <u>Written Entry:</u> Written-word submissions (including, but not limited to an essay, story, poetry, etc.) are limited to 250 words.
- 2. <u>Art/Song/Video:</u> Two-dimensional art pieces are not to exceed 24" x 36" (including, but not limited to drawings, paintings, photographs, comics, etc.). Songs or videos are not to exceed three minutes in length.

## **Steps to Enter:** Qualified participants must:

1. Complete and sign the Law Day Contest Entry Form. To do so, please visit: www.jud.ct.gov/historicalsociety/.

2. Submit the form to:

Mail or email: Hinckley Allen

20 Church Street

Hartford, CT 06103-1221 jmccarthy@hinckleyallen.com

Hand delivery: 20 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103

Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. -5 p.m.

3. All entries must be received by **April 17, 2023** 

**Recognition and Awards:** One winner from each category will receive a prize of \$1,000 (individual or team). The winners will be recognized at the 2023 Law Day Ceremony to be held in person at 10 a.m., on May 1, 2023, at the Connecticut Supreme Court Building, located at 231 Capitol Avenue in Hartford. The winners will have the opportunity to present their submissions to the Chief Justice and the Associate Justices of the Connecticut Supreme Court.

**Privacy:** All names, contact information, and related information should be submitted only on the Entry Form. Names, contact information, or any other personally identifiable information should not be included within the submission (for example, on a "credit roll"), as the submitted pieces may be displayed on publicly accessible websites. If personally identifiable information is presented within the submission, the Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society may void or deem the submission ineligible.

**Submission Standards:** All submissions must be the original work of the participants (for purposes of these rules, "participant(s)" mean the parent or guardian signing the entry form if applicable and the student). Participants must not have granted any other person or entity prior right to use the piece. Submissions will not be accepted or eligible if they include any content that contains or appears to contain:

- 1. Profane, obscene, or inappropriate language, content, or material, or gratuitous violence.
- 2. Endorses, encourages, or condones drug use, underage drinking, alcohol abuse, or other illegal activity.
- 3. Any express or implied commercial endorsement.
- 4. Any derogatory characterization of any person or group based on age, race, color, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, marital status, mental or physical disability, citizenship, creed, national origin, physical appearance, political affiliation, union membership, or other unethical or unlawful factors.
- 5. By submitting entries, participants warrant that the contents of the submitted piece do not infringe on any copyright owned by another, and/or that the content of the piece is within the bounds of

the fair use doctrine. Participants also confirm that to the best of their knowledge, any statements made in the submitted piece are true and do not violate or infringe on the rights of third parties.

## **Judging Standards:**

- 1. Selection of winners will be based on originality, quality, creativity, and clarity of expression related to the 2023 Law Day theme.
- 2. The Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society Law Day Contest Committee will select no more than one winner for each of the two categories from the Eligible Entries that meet minimum quality standards and best reflect the theme. Winners will be contacted by email or phone and their names and written-word submissions, photos of their artwork, lyrics from their song, or pictures of the video will be posted on the Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society website.

## **General Standards:**

- 1. The Connecticut Supreme Court Historical Society is and shall be the final arbiter of the contest and applicability of these rules.
- 2. The sponsor reserves the right to void entries it deems associated with any form of tampering.
- 3. Should technical or other difficulties arise that compromise the integrity of the contest, the sponsor may cancel, modify, or suspend the contest without notice. In that case, the sponsor reserves the right to award the prizes from eligible entries received before the cancellation.
- 4. The sponsor is not responsible for any technical malfunction or service outage related to the contest.

**Questions?** If you have any questions in relation to the contest, please contact:

Jean McCarthy at jmccarthy@hinckleyallen.com